

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (canceled)
2. (currently amended) A lighting device comprising equipment that illuminates an illuminating body, characterized in that the lighting equipment comprises:
 - (A) the an optical laminated body comprising of claim 1
 - (i) a polarizing layer,
 - (ii) a first transparent film disposed closely to a front surface of the polarizing layer, and
 - (iii) a second transparent film disposed closely to a back surface of the polarizing layer, wherein the polarizing layer comprises a reflective polarizing film, and both of the first transparent film and the second transparent film are diffusive films, and
 - (B) a surface-light source supplying light to the optical laminated body; through a light entry surface light entraneing surface (an opposite surface to a surface contacting closely to the polarizing layer) of the first transparent film of the optical laminated body, and
 - (C) a lens film disposed between the light source and the optical laminated body,
the light illuminating the illuminating body is lighting device providing diffused-polarized light emitted from a light emitting surface (an opposite surface to a surface contacting closely to the polarizing layer) of the second transparent film of the laminated body.
3. (currently amended) An area luminescence ~~equipment~~ device comprising the lighting ~~equipment~~ device of claim 2; and a transparent ~~illuminating~~ optical body illuminated ~~thereby by the lighting device~~ from a back surface of the illuminating optical body;
~~characterized in that there is no diffusive plate disposed between the lighting equipment and the illuminating body.~~

4. (new) The area luminescence device of claim 3, wherein the optical body comprises an LCD panel.

5. (new) The area luminescence device of claim 3, wherein there is no diffusive plate disposed between the lighting device and the optical body.

6. (new) A lighting device comprising:

(A) an optical laminated body comprising

(i) a polarizing layer,

(ii) a first transparent film disposed closely to a front surface of the polarizing layer, and

(iii) a second transparent film disposed closely to a back surface of the polarizing layer, wherein the polarizing layer comprises a reflective polarizing film, and both of the first transparent film and the second transparent film are diffusive films, and

(B) a light source supplying light to the optical laminated body through a light entry surface of the first transparent film of the optical laminated body, wherein the light source comprises a plurality of diffusing points of a light diffusive substance disposed on a surface of the light source,

the lighting device providing diffused-polarized light emitted from a light emitting surface of the second transparent film of the laminated body.

7. (new) An area luminescence device comprising the lighting device of claim 6 and a transparent optical body illuminated by the lighting device from a back surface of the optical body.

8. (new) The area luminescence device of claim 7, wherein the optical body comprises an LCD panel.

9. (new) The area luminescence device of claim 7, wherein there is no diffusive plate disposed between the lighting device and the optical body.

10. (new) The lighting device of claim 6, further comprising a lens film disposed between the light source and the optical laminated body.